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Editions+

Celebrating our school and community

FOCUSON...

fhs

Issue No.121 – 11 September 2020

Welcome to our first newsletter of this academic year - I would like to offer a particularly warm welcome to all our new students and parents this year and I look forward to working with you over the years to come. This newsletter is published fortnightly (Friday of Week 2) and is designed to celebrate the life and work at FHS. I hope you enjoy reading it and I look forward to another year of action-packed news stories!

Mr Mackenzie



...It's **GREAT** to have you back!

Our last 'FocusOn...' newsletter was 13 March and a few things have happened since then. Our well-being team kept the news flowing during the closure with the spin-off 'FocusOn...Well-being' weekly newsletter and we would like to thank everyone involved, students and staff, for their lovely contributions and efforts to keep us all in touch and have a little fun. We cannot overstate just how delightful it is to have the school filled with students again after months of silent corridors and empty classrooms. Whilst things are very different and we are all still getting used to our new ways of working, we are so proud of our school community for your amazing resilience, positivity and drive. As you settle back in – students and parents – remember we are here to support you all the way. Welcome back!



...A 'site' for sore eyes

Getting our school ready to welcome back all our students safely and in line with the extensive guidance has been a marathon, not a sprint. The Premises and Facilities team, IT Support team and many others have been working around the clock to make this happen. We now have a brand new outdoor eating area, new toilets in A Building, new pop-up classrooms with interactive screens, enhanced wi-fi, hand sanitiser stations at all entrances and high traffic areas, to name but a few!



...Bubbling with enthusiasm

Students are beginning to settle in with the new Year Group Bubbles with enthusiasm and using their 'bubble basics' to keep them on track. For the safety of all our school community, we ask that students and parents are aware of these expectations and continue to support them fully.

...A warm welcome to Team FHS!

We have a number of new staff joining us this year - we are sure you will join us in welcoming them to Formby High School...



Mr Carton	Teacher of Mathematics
Mr Conchie	Teacher of PE
Mrs Biddlecombe	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Daly	Teacher of English
Mrs Edwards	Teaching Assistant

Mr Halton	Teacher of English
Miss MacDonald	Teacher of Mathematics
Mr Makin	Teacher of Food and Nutrition
Mrs Parnell	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Redmond	Teaching Assistant

...Welcome Year 7s



— All aboard for the transition journey! —

Team Formby High Year 7



Ready to get started!

Year 7 students have started their secondary school journey with enthusiasm and we are delighted to finally have them onboard! Mrs Edey has been very impressed with how students have responded to new routines and new expectations with great maturity. Based in their year group bubble in the Sixth Form Centre, Year 7 are settling well into school

life, albeit a little different to usual. We are looking forward to watching them grow, thrive and succeed during their time at FHS and beyond.

...Summer School 2020

Thankfully, our Year 6 Summer School was able to take place, unlike much of the face to face transition programme we usually enjoy in the build up to Year 7 admission. During the August week between 50-60 students attended on each theme day, including STEM Explorers, Beach Explorers, Sporting Stars, Creative Explorers and Enterprise Challenge Day. Once again, this was a fabulous opportunity for the children to make new friends from other primary schools, meet members of FHS staff and become more familiar with the 'big school' surroundings. Well done to all involved, particularly our budding entrepreneurs who designed their own theme parks... a staff favourite was 'Candy Land', making us all very hungry!



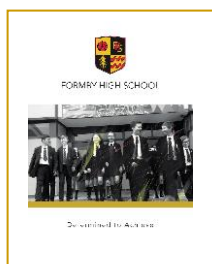
...Creative Arts

In July, our Creative Arts Team celebrated the end of an usual summer term of remote creativity with a spectacular Virtual Arts Festival showcasing a vast array of work created at home by students and staff throughout the summer term.

- 'Over The Rainbow' musical theatre podcast
- Our biggest 'Lockdown Live Lounge' featuring over 25 performers
- GCSE, A Level KS3 and photography digital art galleries
- A virtual orchestra and virtual choir performances
- Our Arts Award Gold showreel

We should also mention our amazing teachers' virtual choir, produced with our colleagues at the Educate Awards, which brings together voices from schools across the North West to perform David Bowie's 'Heroes'. [Use this link to access our full YouTube channel.](#) What's more, FHS has been nominated a Music Mark School Member by The UK Association for Music Education, which recognises the value the school places on music education. Our Music team has been working hard to prepare the department for the return of instrumental and vocal teaching from the end of September and parents should have received full details of the sign-up process via ParentMail. With individual lessons only and safer practice rooms, we're all set to make some beautiful music!

...Virtual Open Evening 2020



Unable to host our annual 700 people strong Open Evening at FHS, we are offering a virtual experience for our prospective families for 2021 admission to Year 7. The delivery may be virtual but the trademark FHS warm welcome is still very real in our Virtual Experience, which includes an Open Evening video, a fabulous digital prospectus with lots of videos by staff and students, and the opportunity to book VIP tours with the Headteacher. The Virtual Experience launches today on our school website... well worth a look, even for our current community.



On the Horizon...

★ Year 6 VIP Tours (limited availability – starting 14 Sep)

★ Year 13 Geography Fieldwork – 29 Sep



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